

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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OPIC:GMIDDLETON

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R 230644Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS STATE 098507

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: MO, US

SUBJECT: ESKIMO PIE PLANS TO LOCATE IN MOROCCO

1. MR. JOOST M.M. BRUCHKE, MANAGER, INTERNATIONAL DIVISION, ESKIMO PIE CORPORATION, CONTACTED DEPT APRIL 21 TO PROVIDE STATUS REPORT AND REQUEST EMBASSY ASSISTANCE HIS EFFORTS TO SET UP OPERATION IN MOROCCO.

2. BRUCHKE UNDERSTANDS THAT MOROCCO DEVELOPMENT BANK WILL SHORTLY APPROVE LOAN ENABLING ESKIMO PIE AND ITS PROSPECTIVE MOROCCAN PARTNER, ATLAS INDUSTRIES, TO GO THROUGH WITH INVESTMENT PLANS. HOWEVER, PARTIES MUST ACCEPT LOAN WITHIN 30 DAYS OR LOAN OFFER IS WITHDRAWN. BRUCHKE NOT RPT NOT PREPARED TO ACCEPT LOAN WITHOUT OPIC INSURANCE AND, UPON RECEIPT OF ASSURANCE FROM HIS PARTNER THAT INVESTMENT COMMITTEE OF MIN COMMERCE HAD APPROVED THEIR PLANS, BRUCHKE WROTE MARCH 19 TO ALI MOUNIR, MFA DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL AFFAIRS, REQUESTING HOST COUNTRY APPROVAL FOR OPIC INSURANCE. NO REPLY RECEIVED TO DATE.

3. BRUCHKE REQUESTS EMBASSY CONTACT MFA AND ASSIST IF POSSIBLE IN OBTAINING RAPID MOROCCAN CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST

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SIBLE IN OBTAINING RAPID MOROCCAN CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST

FOR APPROVAL OF OPIC INSURANCE. FYI: IT IS NOT OPIC POLICY
TO URGE HOST-COUNTRY APPROVAL OF INSURANCE REQUESTS BUT OPIC
SUPPORTS EFFORTS BY US EMBASSIES TO SPEED UP PAPERWORK
WHERE NO SUBSTANTIVE DIFFICULTIES EXIST. END FYI. KISSINGER

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